

# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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**MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN**  
Official Organ of the N. E. Agricultural Society  
**LINUS DARLING,**  
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All persons sending contributions to THE PLOUGHMAN for use in its columns must sign their names, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith, otherwise they will be assigned to the waste-basket. All matter intended for publication should be written on note size paper, with ink, and upon but one side. Correspondence from particular farmers, giving the results of their experience, is solicited. Letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in full, which will be printed or not, at the writer's wish.  
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### AGRICULTURAL.

A FRUIT-FARM is continually increasing in value as the trees grow larger, and very little of our income has to go for fertilizers, our crops not being exhausted, says an exchange. Who ever heard of a fruit-farm being worn out? Every fruit-grower knows that the growing of strawberries, red raspberries and blackberries improve the land. The sunshine, rain and air supply most of the raw material to make our crops, and these are the free gift of God. Our employees are the trees and plants, and they are never on a strike.

STANDARD weight of popular fowls is something that a great many people would like to know. Taking the lightest, the pullet, hen, cockerel, and cock in their order, the standard weights run as follows: Black Langshans 6, 7, 8, and 10 pounds; Light Brahmas 8, 9 1-2, 10 and 12; Barred Plymouth Rocks 6 1-2, 7 1-2, 8 and 9 1-2; White and Silver Laced Wyandottes, 5 1-2, 6 1-2, 7 1-2 and 8 1-2. The weights of Pekin ducks are 6, 7 and 8 pounds; of bronze turkeys, pullet 15 pounds, hen 20 pounds, cockerel 24 pounds, yearling cock 32 pounds, adult cock 35 pounds.

TILE draining is recommended by Secretary McKen of the Maine Board as being the most satisfactory and durable. Unless there are loose stones which must be removed, and which can be used for draining to good advantage, thus putting them to practical use, he advises tile. Mr. Chamberlain, of Ohio, gives a very good and safe rule for ascertaining the size and kind of tile to use. It is as follows: "For sizes from 3 to 6 inches, and grades less than 3 feet to the 100, square the diameter and divide by 4, thus: A 3-inch main will drain 2 1-4 acres. A 4-inch main will drain 4 acres. For heavier grades it may be divided by 3. A 3-inch main will drain 3 acres. A 4-inch main will drain 5 1-2 acres."

Of two drains at different depths, the deeper one always acts first and with far better effect. Of course there is more expense in the digging, but as the bottom of the ditch may be so very narrow, this may not be very large; then the tile will cost the same in each case, and the additional expense of labor will be more than offset by the increased efficiency of the drain. They should never be less than thirty inches in depth, and more if the character of the soil and lay of the land will warrant.

To turn pea-vines: Secure, preferably by clasp, a portion of a scythe blade to either side of a plow beam, the right side believed to be the best. The blade should stand backward slightly; the point should crook forward and extend into the ground sufficiently to gather the vines. If more convenient, the blade may be constructed of steel and confined as aforesaid. It is necessary to slant it backward to prevent the vines from slipping up to the beam and choking. Vines, however rank the growth, can thus readily be cut and turned. The plan has been thoroughly tested.—Bryan Tyson.

## THE GREAT FAIR.

The Best Exhibition Ever Held

—BY THE—

### N. E. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Good Weather and Large Attendance.

Whatever may be its achievements in the future, the grand exhibition of 1897 will be looked back upon as one of the greatest triumphs in the line of agricultural exhibitions. The completeness in details, the immensity in extent, the exhibits and the most excellent management under the ever-watchful eye of chief manager H. F. FARNHAM, Esq., make it the great attraction of the season.

The notable exhibit of live stock exceeds that of all previous Fairs. Every stall and pen is filled and many animals are secured to posts. Among this wonderful show of cattle, we find the following herds, viz:

Holsteins—J. H. G. Whitcomb, Littleton, Mass.; Ex-Gov. Goodale, Antrim, N. H.; J. H. Mead, Rutland, Vt.  
Jerseys—B. F. & H. F. Briggs, Auburn, Me.; Freeland Bros., Sutton, Mass.; W. Cobb, Vassalboro; J. F. Bunker, Me.; Alonzo Libby, Westbrook, Me.  
Ayrshires—A. W. Hunt, Brunswick, Me.; Grange Stock Farm, Danville, Quebec, Can.  
Dorshires—J. V. Fletcher, Stark, Me.; A. H. & W. C. Sweetser, Cummington, Mass.

Guernseys—J. B. Palmer, Jewett City, Conn.; H. H. Witherell, Monmouth, Me.

Devons—W. H. Neal, Meredith, N. H. Herefords—E. A. & Wilbur Hilton, Anson; Ernest Hill, Anson; W. E. Eaton, Solon, Me.

Sussex—T. H. Burleigh, Waterville. Many fine oxen are at the pack, Sam'l Treacey of Deering having 14 yoke.

In the sheep pens we find most excellent stock.

Cotswolds—E. E. Gifford, Fairfield; O. D. Wauha, Stark; H. B. Morrill, Stanstead, Can.

Leicesters—Frank Moore, Anson; J. B. Palmer, Conn.

Hampshire Downs—H. Corbett, Farmington, Me.; J. Hoag & Son, N. Y.; T. S. Hilton, Anson.

Oxford Downs—C. W. Hilton, Anson, Me.; H. B. Morrill, Canada.

Shropshires—Bert Hilton, Anson; James B. Palmer, Jewett City, Conn.

Dorsets—J. B. Palmer, Conn.; B. Hilton, Anson, Me.

Merinos—Frank Moore, Anson; J. H. Mead, Rutland, Vt.

Fat Sheep—W. G. Hilton, Anson, South Downs—W. H. Neal, Meredith, N. H.; E. E. Gifford, Fairfield, Me.

Me.; C. D. Wauha, Stark, Me.

Among the exhibits of swine we found Berkshires—Hood Farm, Lowell, Mass.; J. L. Best, Portland.

Chester Whites—A. Adams, Madison, Me.; H. Turner, Me.

Jersey Reds—A. J. Kinniston, Simpson's Corner, Me.

Yorkshires—C. A. Arnold, Me. Grange Farm, Danville, Can.

There was a very fine exhibit of poultry from the leading breeders.

In the horse department B. F. & F. H. Briggs, Auburn, Me., had twelve, headed by "Messenger Wilkes." John F. Barrett, Esq., Deering, nineteen horses with "Westland" at the head of the string.

The horse stables are full, with some 250 light harness and 50 exhibition horses making a grand display. In the entries of trotting horses are many of the most noted flyers of the day.

One of the leading features at Rigby is the encampment of U. S. Cavalry Troop F, Capt. Dodd, U. S. A., commanding. He is the first American soldier to introduce the higher education of training horsemen into the problem of military manoeuvre, and the wonderful exhibitions of the famous troop attract many to the park.

Of course one of the great features at the park is the Midway, which surpasses all previous years. The crowds are here at all times.

The Hood Farm exhibit of Jersey cattle and Berkshire swine is a centre of

attraction, as no finer stock can be found in America.

Not far from the poultry tent is the display of agricultural implements and many wonderful machines are found here. Among the exhibitors are J. J. Frye, Portland; Kendall & Whitney, A. Pratt Co., D. M. Osborne, Vermont Machine Co., Belcher & Taylor and C. J. Jager, Boston.

The White Squadron in Portland Harbor is the leading attraction of the city.

There are six war ships, Rear Admiral Sicard commanding, Flag Ship New York, U. S. S. Massachusetts, U. S. S. Texas, U. S. S. Iowa, U. S. S. Brooklyn, Puritan and Tennessee.

Address of Gen. Francis H. Appleton.

PRESIDENT OF THE NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, AT THE OPENING OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL FAIR, AT PORTLAND, ME.

Fellow Members of the New England Agricultural Society:

Assembling, as we are, to view the Fair of 1897, now in full operation after having been planned and effected by much consideration and activity by the management, let us congratulate ourselves, and the farming interests of New England, upon the results of another fine show of livestock and implement exhibits at Rigby Park; and produce and domestic display at the Auditorium, or Armory Hall.

We are honored by the presence of a noted troop of cavalry of the United States Army, and the North Atlantic Squadron with its distinguished commander and his officers, floats on the waters of the beautiful Portland Harbor, both to accompany our efforts, to advance and promote agricultural interest which we hope may extend beyond the limits of dear and rugged New England.

We had hoped that President McKinley and friends would have been able to accept the offer of a special train to Portland from his place of summer sojourn, and share with the people of New England, who incline to visit the Fair and its attractions. Such a visit has been, so far, regarded as impossible. We still hope for a visit from some distinguished member of his Cabinet.

The conditions, in general, of New England agriculture require a different and more scientific treatment, to-day at least, to make it productive to the largest degree, than does the newer land more westerly from us; and it must be a care for all agriculturists to urge and advise that the teaching of Science be offered to those who till the soil, in such intelligent form that the several States of New England, and the farmers and horticulturists in them, shall have the best opportunity to apply such advanced principles.

Such questions are the care of our Experiment Stations, Agricultural Colleges, and Boards of Agriculture. Our Agricultural Societies are established to be leaders and guides as to the needs, and possibilities in that direction. All should aim to work together for a common good; and in that work I am sure that none are more anxious or desirous of doing all that is possible to advance New England interests than this Society of ours.

Generation after generation of men pass away from this earth, but the condition of our States and Nation remain to be constantly advanced, as a result of the applications of wise intelligence. May the welfare of our people continue to advance, by combined efforts to secure a proper use of sound common sense on the part of those whom the governed place in office and on the part of those whom public officials are called upon to govern.

As President of the National Forestry Association I cannot now refrain from reference to that subject briefly. None are more interested in the protection of the forest cover of our country's surface, and the preservation of our water courses and supplies, in an average condition of fullness than our agricultural population; as supplying power, carriers of ships and barges, sources of water supply, etc., we are greatly interested therein.

The fertility of our soil is greatly enhanced by the presence of a sufficient amount of moisture therein, and in times of excessive dryness, applied fertility, whether in animal manure or commercial preparation, is largely inactive unless enough moisture is present to dissolve it into available food for the roots and rootlets of our crops.

We then see the vast importance to us of a wise and unprejudiced administration and application of advanced teaching and accurate knowledge in all matters relating to forest management.

May those having the decision as to National and State Forestry matters act wisely as to what will most benefit our common country. Our forests should be used in such ways as shall not abuse them.

We must not depend upon the State alone to aid us. It is said that God helps those who help themselves, but it does seem that God prefers to give the least help to those who do not make good use of the wonderful powers that he has conferred upon the human race to help themselves.

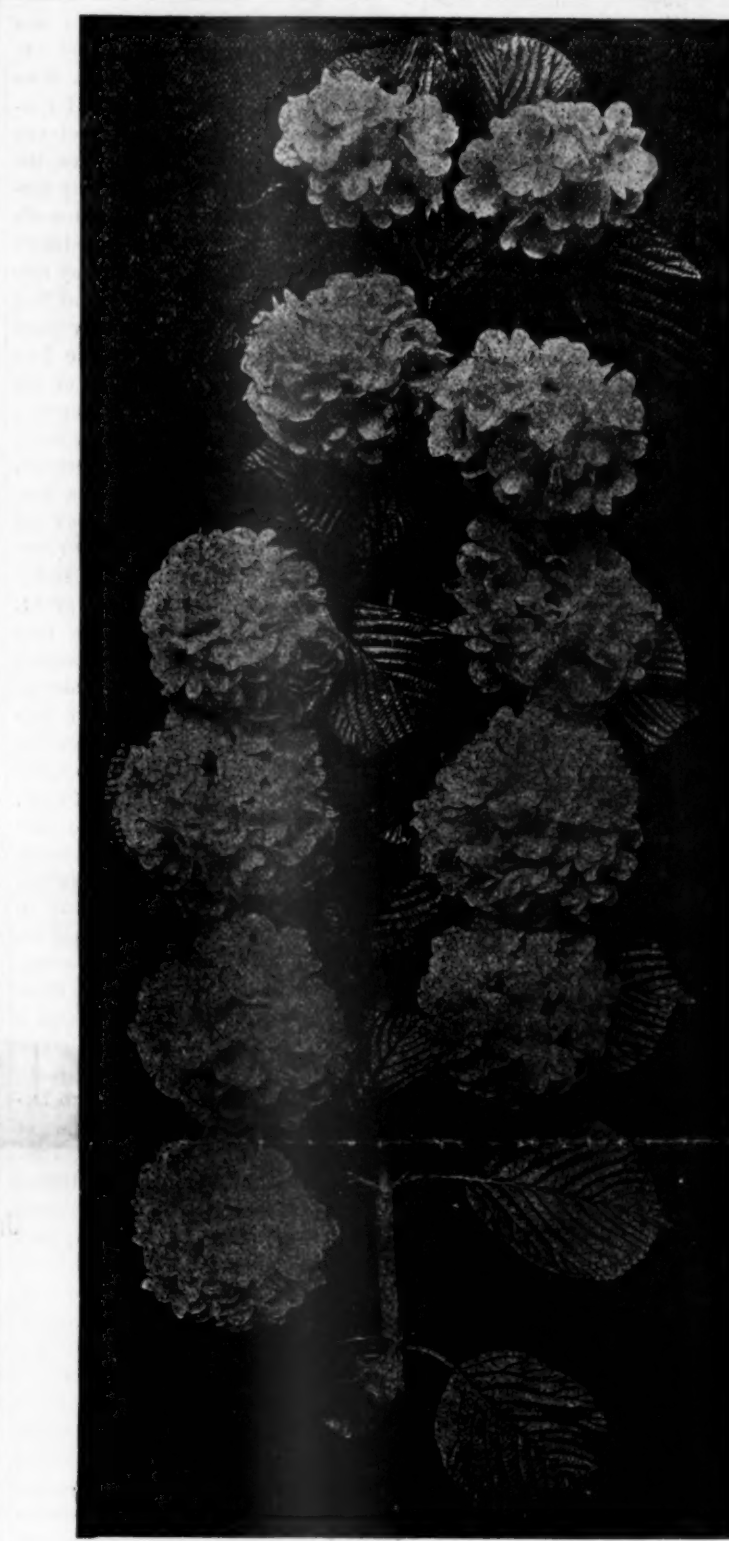
We have been glad to again come to Portland for our Fair and let us hope that, when the time comes for the New England Fair to locate elsewhere, the members of this neighborhood will aid us and guide us in deciding where next to locate in order to do good to New England's agriculture in a manner next better to what has been done at Portland, and to assist us to endeavor to improve upon it if possible.

We extend best wishes at all times to Portland's agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and general business.

### Cream of the Bulletins.

POTATO TESTING.

Bulletin No. 41 of the New Hampshire Station is a report of work done to make a comparison of varieties, and to test the difference in their effect on the crop of the muriate and sulphate of potash, and also to test the value of corrosive sublimate as a preventive of the scab. It is illustrated with cuts showing the typical form of 80 varieties of potatoes from photographs. Among this list there are, of course, many sorts whose reputation is already well established, while others are new. Of the Uncle Sam, the bulletin reports that it is a smooth, round, white potato, somewhat russet, and ripens with the Rural New Yorker. It is regarded as giving great promise for the future. American Wonder maintained its reputation for productiveness and uniform size. Banner does not seem to be fixed in type; but is above the average in productiveness. Carman No. 1 made numerous tubers, but not large; setting more than it can mature. Carman No. 3 resembles in appearance and growth Rural New Yorker No. 2; but is rather longer. It is a late sort with few small tubers. Country Gentleman grew well in the early season; but blighted early and made small tubers of various shapes, 48 per cent. of which were scabby. Early Northern resembles Early Rose, and was not very uniform in size or form. Early Thoroughbred did not show many points of superiority and probably needs a different soil. Freeman is a handsome and very fine quality potato, which requires high culture to make large potatoes. Maggie Murphy made a light yield, but the tubers were mainly of marketable size. Money Maker was irregular in shape and made many small ones. Parker's Market was medium size and made too many small potatoes. Peerless Jr. resembles Rural New Yorker No. 2. Quick Crop is of the Hebron type, smooth and of good size. Yielded well and is regarded as promising. Reeve's Rose made too great a percentage of small potatoes, and was not productive. Sir William stood sixth in rate of yield; but near first in the proportion of marketable potatoes. Twenty per cent. were scabby. It is a late variety and escapes the early blight. Vaughan set many tubers, but did not reach good size. Blighted early and scabbed 27 per cent. White Ohio is a seedling from Early Ohio, white in color. Claimed to be the earliest potato; but did not prove superior in New Hampshire. General appearance good. Yield



THE JAPAN SNOWBALL.

average. Governor Rusk is a potato of nice appearance; smooth, long and cylindrical in shape, reddish color and very productive. Promising. An experiment was made to show the difference between the effect of the muriate compared with the sulphate of potash on potatoes. The total yield was in favor of the muriate, and the proportion of marketable potatoes was also slightly in favor of the muriate. But from one year's test there seems to be little difference between these forms of potash on potatoes. Most trials of the corrosive sublimate as a preventive of scab on potatoes, have seemed to be beneficial, and the 80 varieties tested were each treated with it. The soil on which they were grown was inoculated with the disease from potatoes grown there two years before. The following were the results: Rupert's Perfection and Victor Rose were free from scab either when treated or untreated. Banner and Reeve's Rose showed the same percentage of scab under both conditions. Sixty-two varieties favored the treatment and the remaining fourteen did not. The total average for those treated was about 24 per cent. of scabby potatoes, while for those not treated the average of scabby ones was about 35 per cent. There was over 10 per cent. in favor of the treatment. When it is considered that the soil was infected, and some manure was used while the season was favorable to the scab development, the result was accepted as a marked indication of the value of the treatment and the treatment is recommended.

THE PRESERVATION OF BARNYARD MANURE.

The true fertilizing value of barnyard manure and the best and most economical methods of managing it have claimed much attention recently from a number of the foremost agricultural scientists of the world, and the conclusions they have reached are of great practical importance, for although the use of such manures is almost as old as

agriculture itself, there are many questions related to their management and use which have never been clearly understood, says Farmers' Bulletin No. 56. It is well known that barnyard manure, if neglected, rapidly loses the greater part of its fertilizing value and becomes practically worthless, except to improve the mechanical and physical properties of the soil. It is also well understood by practical men that it is not economical to follow many of the elaborate methods of preservation which have been suggested. To be economical, the method of management must be simple and involve as little labor and expense as possible. The recent studies of scientific men on farm manures have been very largely directed to the very desirable, practical end of simplifying methods of management and preservation.

Careful attention to the construction of the manure heap so that air will be completely excluded as possible, keeping the heap moist, and avoiding alternate wetting and drying, have been suggested as means of preventing loss of valuable fertilizing constituents and of promoting a decomposition which will largely reduce the power of the manure to convert available nitrogen into less valuable or useless forms (denitrifying power) in the soil. Here we have an explanation of the effectiveness of well-rotted manure; not only is the availability of its own nitrogen increased, but its power to injuriously affect available nitrogen from other sources is reduced.

Authorities agree that attention to the construction and management of the manure heap is much more important than the use of preservatives, with which the results have been contradictory. Kainit has been found to be effective in checking the formation of ammonia, and superphosphate in preventing its escape. The use of these is to be recommended where they can be cheaply obtained, because, in addition to preserving the manure, they add to its constituents (potash and phosphoric

acid) in which it is somewhat deficient. Caustic lime has been found effective in destroying the denitrifying power of manure, above referred to, but there are certain serious objections to its use. It is well known that it has a tendency to drive off ammonia from organic matter such as manure. However, if the lime is applied to the fresh manure, the danger of loss from the escape of ammonia has been found to be very small. It is only after fermentation has commenced in the manure that the danger of loss on application of lime becomes serious. It has been suggested that it might be safe and economical to mix caustic lime or marl with the manure to destroy its denitrifying power and to cover the heap with earth to prevent the escape of ammonia. A second objection to lime is that it tends to convert the available nitrogen of manure into insoluble and less available forms, but this tendency is, in a measure, compensated for by the fact that, in addition to destroying the denitrifying organism, as already explained, the lime promotes nitrification, or the formation of nitrates, when the manure is applied to the soil. Lime should not be used in connection with superphosphate, because it renders the phosphoric acid which the latter contains insoluble and destroys the effectiveness of the superphosphate, because it renders the phosphoric acid which the latter contains insoluble and destroys the effectiveness of the superphosphate as a preservative. Bisulphid of carbon almost entirely destroys the denitrifying organism, but its use in practice is not recommended because of its expense. Sulphuric acid has proved very effective, not only preserving the fertilizing constituents but increasing the availability of the nitrogen, but its general use can hardly be recommended.

### The Japan Snowball.

A native of both China and Japan, and first found in China, yet Viburnum plicatum is now popularly known as the Japan Snowball. It was introduced into England from China in 1846; and in 1847, just fifty years ago, was described in the Botanical Register, London. It is only within the past twenty-five years that it has been much disseminated in this country, but increasingly so as its merits have become better known, and it is yet regarded as a new variety, and in fact, but few, comparatively, have seen it, says Vick's Magazine, to which we are indebted for our handsome cut this week.

The bush is of lower growth and more compact than the old snowball, and better with foliage. The leaves are quite different in form and appearance from the latter. Our common snowball has palmate or three-lobed and coarsely toothed, smooth leaves, while the leaves of the Japan snowball are broadly ovate or obovate, abruptly pointed, and with small or shallow teeth; the leaves, which are somewhat hairy, are also particularly noticeable for their rough or wrinkled surface, as if folded in creases or plaits, hence its name *plicatum*, folded. The leaves are dark green, and their peculiar surface gives them a very rich appearance.

The individual flowers are somewhat larger than those of the common form and of a purer white. The largest of the clusters or balls are about the same size as those of the old snowball, though not quite uniform in this respect, but as a rule becoming smaller towards the ends of the shoots. The manner of growth or arrangement of the clusters on the two plants is quite distinct: The cluster of the common snowball is borne at the end of a somewhat lengthened and flexible side shoot, and its weight bends down its support, often making it pendulous.

The balls of the Japan plant, as may be noticed in the photo-gravure, are at the ends of very short side shoots, and not at all pendulous; and yet, and though placed so numerous along the branch or year-old shoot, they do not appear to be stiffly disposed, perhaps because of the soft, fluffy, graceful balls themselves, and because the bloom is so abundant and is dispersed so generally over the surface of the plant that the arrangement in detail is subordinate to the general effect.











# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

BOSTON, AUGUST 21, 1897.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

PLANT nut trees in the odd corners. BONES contain much fertilizing value. Save them all.

DIRECT contact with potash salts retards the germination of seeds.

REGULARITY in feeding and watering dairy stock insures regularity in cash returns.

CREEPING bent is considered the finest grass for lawns by the Department of Agriculture.

NOT how to produce more but how to sell to better advantage is the great question of the time for the farmer.

HASTE makes waste with pear trees. Rapid growth gives an unprofitable tree. An annual growth of some ten or twelve inches is sufficient.

THE farmers of the United States hold free of all mortgage or other incumbrance, 72 out of every 100 farms, a pretty good showing.

WOOD ashes, aside from their fertilizing properties, renders land easier of culture, and secures better drainage in wet seasons and the retention of moisture in dry seasons.

THE English find our cattle to be of good weight and superior in quality to that received from any other country. This touches our patriotism as well as our pocket books.

OHIO farmers are required by law to remove in the months of July and August all weeds along that section of the public road which borders on their property. It is a wise law.

STRAIGHTEN that winding stream and plant willow cuttings on the bank to prevent it from going back into its regular course. The land is then left in better shape for cultivation and with not so much waste.

THE Department of Agriculture makes a suggestion in its annual year book that the salaries of the chiefs and their assistants be increased. The statement is made that the low salaries paid are not sufficient to hold in its service the ablest and best workers, who are constantly leaving for better paid positions in universities, colleges and experiment stations, thus crippling the efficiency of the service. It is also said that thirty-two of the leading scientific experts have left the Department during the last few years for more lucrative positions, and unless the salaries paid are brought up to the standard of those paid for similar work elsewhere, the Department cannot hope to retain its share of learned and experienced experts.

THE New England Fair for 1897, which closes with the date of this issue, appears to be the most successful one ever held during the many years of the society's existence. It is always noted for its exhibit of live stock and this year's fair does not fall behind its predecessors in this respect, and, in fact, exceeds them, both in quality and numbers. The accommodations, which are ample, have been taxed to their very utmost. The attendance has been large and enthusiastic, and notwithstanding the fact that the expense of the fair, with its many and various features, is large, it is quite certain the balance will be on the right side. The managers of the fair are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts, and the New England Society on this, their latest success.

The secretary of the National Shippers' Association, which recently met in Buffalo, N. Y., and which handled about two-thirds of last year's crop, estimated by them at 75,000,000 barrels, thinks that this year will see only about 60 per cent. of a full crop, with quality good, the shortage being largely in the East. He reports that the English dealers say the exports of last season were not in excess of the consuming capacity of the English market but that low prices were caused by poor quality, poor packing, poor transportation facilities. In his address the president said that the increase of the business has been steady and enormous. There are thousands of modern cold storage houses in which millions of barrels are held for long periods and better prices. The Albemarle Pippin, as grown in Virginia, is considered the finest of all apples, and most in demand. At least it brings the highest price in the English market. The president states his belief that in California a 100-acre Spitzenburg apple orchard would yield the income of a California gold mine. He also warns against holding apples for export until spring, when there is a competition in the English markets from other foreign countries.

DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED. By local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

Will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circular, free.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, etc.

## CURRENT TOPICS.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science which met in Detroit elected as its new president Prof. F. W. Putnam of Harvard; L. O. Howard of the department of agriculture, Washington, succeeds Prof. Putnam as permanent secretary. Following the election came a discussion with reference to the place for the meeting of next year, which was conducted in the interests of Boston. The invitations of the state and the city were so strongly worded, and it was so eminently proper that the city of origin of the association should witness its 50th anniversary meeting that the question was practically decided before it was put. In behalf of the state of Massachusetts Gov. Wolcott tendered an invitation and in behalf of the city of Boston, Mayor Quincy extended an invitation. There were letters from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Boston Society of Natural History, Boston University, Tufts College, the Appalachian Mountain Club, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and a host of other societies. There could be no refusing an invitation so unanimous and so hearty. And Boston it will be in August, 1898.

The Department of Agriculture reports that half a billion of dollars is the amount which the farmers will receive as the result of advanced prices for this season's crops, as compared with last year. And this goodly sum is going very largely into the hands of the producers, not the speculators and middlemen. These figures are based upon the most careful computations made by experts in the Department of Agriculture for the Sunday World. The returns from certain crops, especially corn, are not yet sufficiently definite to estimate approximate yields. The indications are that the total of all farming products will be a trifle less than those of last year, in spite of which higher prices will mean more money for the farmer. This is especially noticeable in potatoes, which now command a price just double that realized last year, by which the farmers will reap a benefit equal to a crop of half a billion instead of 250,000,000 bushels. It is an invariable rule that a small crop of a given product causes materially enhanced values, except in cases where foreign complications affect the result.

The advance over last year's prices has already been considerable. Wheat, corn, potatoes, mess pork, milk cows and beef cattle, hogs, sheep and wool have advanced sharply in price. There has also been a sharp advance in the price of cotton. Potatoes are bringing double what they brought last year. This advance in prices of farm products will have a very favorable effect upon farmers. While the crops will not probably be so large as those of last year, they will bring the farmer a good deal more money and cost less for the handling of the same, thus increasing his profits.

Massachusetts is certainly having her share of summer sensations. The tragedy at the western end of the state, whereby the money lender, Reed, and his sister lost their lives, appears so far to be shrouded in mystery. It is generally conceded the crime was committed by an enemy of Reed's, for the man had aroused much ill will by his business transactions, and thus far all clues have resulted in nothing definite and the authorities seem as far from a solution of the mystery as ever. The double murder does not have the appearance of a carefully planned and executed scheme, and it seems hardly possible that the criminal can escape.

The death of Herbert Willis, the Taunton youth who was serving a life sentence in the Charlestown prison for the murder of his friend, puts an end to a life which surprised every one by its sudden development of recklessness. His brother, who assisted him in the desperate attempt to escape from prison, appears to be in a fair way to recover and will be brought to account for his wrong doing as soon as he is well enough to appear in court.

In these enlightened days, it seems strange to read of a duel, fought almost to the death, between two members of royal families. On account of reflections made by Prince Henri of Orleans upon the courage of the Italian army, he was challenged by the Count of Turin, and a duel fought in which Prince Henri nearly lost his life, while the Count was received with great applause and rejoicing on his victorious return. It is a matter of wonderment on this side of the ocean at least, how the fearlessness and superior skill of the Count of Turin can prove untrue the charge made by Prince Henri, and what was the use of it all, any way.

The Klondike craze has in no wise abated and much suffering is sure to follow the overcrowding of transportation facilities and the efforts to reach the mining section at this season of the year. Reports say that affairs could not be much worse. Two thousand people are camped along the rocky shore with but few horses or pack animals at hand, and they have practically no chance of getting over the pass. One of the United States commissioners, by using his official influence and paying \$400 in coin, managed to get the Indians to pack his outfit over the Chilkoot pass to the lakes. Of the others who went from Puget sound without horses not one in fifty will go across the mountains this winter. Those who have horses and a boat stand a fairly good chance of getting through, but the start must be made before winter comes on. The United States government has issued a warning to the would-be gold miners not to attempt the dangerous journey to the Klondike region at this time and sets forth plainly the dan-

gers and hardships. It is probable that before the long Alaskan winter is over, the death rate from lack of provisions and insufficient protection, will be appalling.

The strike of the coal miners seems no nearer settlement than in the past. There are gains all along the line for the strikers, especially in West Virginia, there being now fully fifteen hundred out in that district. A few, however, have returned to the Pittsburgh mines. The injunction issued against the miners to prevent them from marching, holding meetings, etc., is still in force and it is thought if it is made permanent, that it may be disregarded by the miners and arrests may follow. The sympathy of the public is still shown by contributions both of food and money.

A sufficient proof of the large wheat crop in Manitoba is given by the fact that a call has been issued for five thousand men to help harvest it. The system of supplying this demand is a very complete one. The proper transportation by the railways of these farm laborers is managed to a great extent by the Manitoba Government. On each excursion train is a map of Manitoba, divided into townships, and on every township marked in plain figures is the number of men required in that particular section. This the agent who accompanies every train is enabled very easily to direct laborers to where they will be able to obtain work. If a man expresses a preference for any particular place, he is, if possible, sent there, and if work cannot be obtained there, he is told so. This system prevents any congestion in any one place or in the large centers. The railroads quote a rate on these excursion trains of \$14 from stations in Ontario to any point in Manitoba. Those who go are given certificates, and when these have been properly filled out to the effect that the holder has done one month's farm work, he is returned to his starting point at the same rate, \$14. This, therefore, gives a return fare of \$28 to everyone willing to do a month's work in the province.

That Cuba must be subjugated, the late Spanish Premier considered one of the commandments that he must obey. Probably it was so at the beginning of the insurrection, but it may well be questioned if it is so now, says the Harper's Weekly. If it be no longer so, then the crime by which he has been removed may work for good to humanity and civilization. For so long as Canovas del Castillo remained at the head of affairs he could not have made the acknowledgment that the subjugation of Cuba was a hopeless enterprise, even though he might personally have been convinced of its hopelessness. His successor can afford to make that acknowledgment if he is convinced that the Spanish nation will permit it. And why should the Spanish nation longer resist it? The war which has devastated Cuba has brought Spain to ruin. A remorseless conception has taken a victim from every hamlet, from every household in the country, and of these conscripts the majority will either not return or will return as wrecks. Yet the drain of blood and treasure goes on, and is brought to the notice of every Spaniard. How long will a barren and bankrupt pride sustain the Spaniards in this destruction?

We ourselves are the nearest witness to what is going on in Cuba, and we have been revolted and horrified by the aimless and hopeless slaughter and devastation. We have notified Spain that we could not view with indifference the indefinite prolongation of what is really a war of extermination. The time would come when we should be forced to interfere. Does not the death of Canovas afford us an opportunity of making representations at Madrid to which Canovas del Castillo was forced by what seemed to him the necessities of his position to turn a deaf ear, but to which his successor may be able and disposed to listen?

The reliable and successful Comer's Commercial College of Boston will open the 57th school year September 7. The enviable record of Comer's College for over half a century, during which time some 31,000 pupils have been graduated, many of whom today occupy highest positions in Boston business circles, is itself the best evidence of the high character and intrinsic value of the business instruction imparted at this well-known school.

STATE GRANGE FAIR. There is every indication, that the exhibit of live stock at the Grange Fair will far exceed similar exhibits of previous years. There is little doubt that the farmers are taking hold of the Grange fair, and are bound to make it a huge success. The prospect of a big state bounty for a state grange fair is a strong temptation for the grangers, and they are at it heart and soul. They are going to show the people of Massachusetts that a real live agricultural fair can be run in Worcester, and that the heart of the Commonwealth is the only logical place for the holding of such a fair. The contract with the horseless carriage concern for daily exhibitions on two of the four days of the fair at least three of their horseless carriages, is attracting a deal of attention. Whether or not these carriages will circulate the track faster than the pacing kings, "Gentry" or "Robert J.", remains to be seen. It is safe to predict there will be an effort made by Tewksbury to have the paces set a mark that will give the horsemen a set back. The fair will give the horsemen a set back more or less trouble to equal.

The Chief Executive of the nation appreciates the good things of life. Hence his selection of Plattsburg as a vacation resort. Plattsburg is a beautiful town and the Fitchburg R.R. is the best way to reach it.

Are much in little; always ready, efficient, satisfactory; prevent a cold or fever; cure all liver ills, sick headache, jaundice, constipation, etc. Price 25 cents. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

**Hood's Pills**

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**Comer's Commercial College**

LEAST EXPENSIVE.

Experienced teachers; superior course of study; individual instruction; positions for pupils; special three months' course for advanced pupils; reduced tuition fees for 57th school year, beginning SEPT. 7th, 1897.

**Bookkeeping, Shorthand,**

And all other business studies. See the new faces and letters in our 57th Annual Bulletin. Sent free. **COMER'S COMMERCIAL COLLEGE,** 666 WASHINGTON STREET, Cor. Beach St., Boston, Mass.

## Read and Run.

—Lynn, Mass., makes shoes for Brazil.  
—Hamburg boasts a floating dry dock.  
—The South has 90,000 cotton mill workers.  
—The coal strikers are suffering from a lack of food.  
—Uncle Sam has 150 salt-producing establishments.  
—England annually imports \$20,000,000 worth of eggs.  
—American whalers this season have realized \$702,449.  
—The Field Museum's Alaska expedition has returned.  
—Fall River mills are to start up on full time next Monday.  
—Washington's home is being restored to its original condition.  
—An increase of 10 cents has been made in Boston's tax rate.  
—A large increase in trade is reported in all parts of the country.  
—Gloucester's summer carnival is one of the best ever held there.  
—The price for foreign crockery has risen ten to fifteen per cent.  
—Charles F. Bates has taken first honors at Hollywood horse show.

—Mounted police are to leave Manitoba next week for the gold country.  
—Louisiana will disintegrate all sleeping cars arriving in New Orleans.  
—Five thousand laborers are wanted to harvest the crops in Manitoba.  
—The Massachusetts Benefit Life Association will last until September 1.  
—The festivities at St. Petersburg in honor of the Kaiser's visit continue.  
—The Cramps' offer to furnish diagonal armor for the Alabama has been accepted.  
—Supreme Chief Justice Samuel McGowan is critically ill at Abbeville, S. C.  
—A new steamer for the Boston transatlantic freight traffic has been launched.  
—The Portland is expected to bring \$3,000,000 from Alaska on her next trip.  
—The state police have sent a cruiser to drive away porgy pirates in Buzzard's Bay.

—The striking miners stake all on their right to assemble and march on public roads.  
—Attleboro youth dived through a window while asleep and may die of his injuries.  
—A new street car line from Atlantic to Quantum has been opened with much jubilation.  
—The strikers near Pittsburgh have been compelled again to quit marching by the injunction.  
—A large order for wheat from the heart of Switzerland has been received in New York.

—A woman named Mary Anderson was arrested in Cleveland for selling forged mileage books.

—Lord Kelvin thinks the use of garbage as fuel will revolutionize the economic policy of cities.

—The chief railroad engineer of Japan is in this country to increase our trade with his country.

—Owing to the rush to Klondike, there are not men enough to load ships in San Francisco harbor.

—Dedham is asked to grant the location for a street railway that may later be extended to Medford.

—Cincinnati, O., is the centre of a great new combine of manufacturers of wood-working machinery.

—President McKinley has accepted an invitation to attend the Ohio State Fair at Columbus, opening August 31.

—Not all of the requests of Boston Trade and Transportation Association have been granted by railroads.

—An association composed of buyers for commercial houses in the various cities has been formed in New York.

—More than \$45,000,000 has to be raised this year in New York, and the tax rate is \$2.10, against \$2.12 in '96.

—There is great excitement in California over the gold discovery in Trinity County, and a great rush already to the new mines.

—Missouri has raised the taxable valuation of her railroads and telegraphs by over \$3,000,000, and will add \$750,000 to her revenues next year.

—It is stated that in six months of the year American manufacturers can make enough shoes to supply the 70,000,000 people of the United States.

—A party of 150 workmen bound for the harvest fields in the Dakotas and other points west of St. Paul passed through Milwaukee the other day. They came from Michigan. All the railroads are carrying men to the West.

Close finishes have been the rule at the Saratoga Races, and have been most enjoyable. To have your entire trip a pleasant one, be sure that your tickets read via the Fitchburg R. R.

## Literary Notes.

One of the most interesting features of HARPER'S MAGAZINE for September will be an article on George du Maurier, by Henry James, giving an intimate view of the artist and writer. Other attractive features will be: "Around London by Bicycle," by Elizabeth Robins Pennell; "The Beginnings of the American Navy," by James Barnes; instalments of the serial stories by Frank K. Stockton and John Fox, Jr.; and a humorous romance of the golf links, "The Lost Ball," by W. G. van T. Stipphen, etc.

In the month of August HARPER'S WEEKLY will make a specialty of those features of wide-spread interest which have won for it the title of "A National Journal." Vivid accounts of the gold fields in the Klondike, brought by miners returning heavily-laden, will be reproduced by special correspondents, with numerous illustrations, and there will also be illustrated articles on "The Siberian Railway," "The University of California," and "Hawaii," and instalments of the story of the Greek war of Independence. "The Vintage," by E. F. Benson.

The Tenth Annual Educational Number of the Outlook puts side by side personal sketches of two great educators, with unusually fine portraits of the two men. One of the two is an American—the great scientist, Joseph Le Conte, who has been the ablest American advocate of the theory of evolution as being in union with the doctrine of Christianity. The other is the famous and eccentric English scholar and Oxford professor, Benjamin Jowett, and the sketch is based on the recent biography which has attracted such wide attention. There are half-a-dozen or more other articles relating to timely educational topics; a refined love story by Margaret Sutton Briscoe; an immensely interesting instalment of Mr. Justin McCarthy's "Story of Gladstone's Life," touching upon the Alabama Question and the Irish University contest; the second part of Helen M. North's valuable and beautiful illustrated "How to See an English Cathedral," a readable paper on "Pilgrims Progress," by the pastor of the church at Bunbury's town, Bedford—the Rev. John Brown, D.D., and much else of interest. The cover has a strongly drawn reproduction of the statue of the "Lemnian Athena," now known to be a copy of Phidias's great work, the parts of which were brought together in a strange way. [See page.] The Outlook Company, 13 Astor Place, New York.]

## Press Comment.

We hear a good deal about foreign miners bringing out of Alaska \$2,000,000 in gold, after enduring two or three years of the greatest hardships imaginable in the frozen North. During the past year the live stock industry of Wyoming has advanced in value over \$5,000,000, and it would not be difficult to find fifty men whose live stock property has increased in value \$50,000 each, while there are scores who have accumulated a fortune within the same period.—Chicago Times Herald.

A Chicago paper prints an excellent cartoon entitled "Two distinguished American tourists," and they happen to be Mr. Corn and Miss Wheat just taking an outgoing steamer. The country can well afford to send away tourists like these; they send back gold instead of taking it away.—Springfield Republican.

Farming conditions, like those of all other business, have been revolutionized. Not only is this true of the methods of tillage and reaping, but of the markets as well. In farming products, as in other things, people are every day demanding more, both in product and service, for their money. The market gardener who supplies customers in a large city will tell you that not only must his product be good, but it must be uniform in appearance and packed in an attractive way in order to run the gauntlet of the customer, wholesale or retail.—Newburyport News.

It is reported that the experiments which have been made by the Post-Office Department in the free delivery of rural letters have, so far, resulted very much to the Department's satisfaction, says the Harper's Weekly. Fifty thousand dollars was appropriated last winter by Congress for this use, and tests of the feasibility of the plan were made in various parts of the country. Early reports which have come in, especially from some districts in Maine and Vermont, tell of the satisfaction of the farmers with the new service, and of their willingness to profit by it. It is found that they take many more daily newspapers when they can have them delivered, and also that the number of letters carried shows a vigorous increase. The rural carrier makes one trip a day over a distance of between sixteen and twenty-four miles. He supplies his own conveyance, horse and cart or bicycle. It has been found that responsible men are willing to do this work for an annual stipend ranging from \$175 upwards, the average pay being about \$300. It is estimated that at that rate sixty million dollars (about half the annual pension bill) would provide rural free delivery all over the United States. That would mean among other things, employment for 200,000 persons. The rural carriers are allowed to eke out their stipend by any supplementary enterprises that do not interfere with their duties, as to sell stamps or stationery and receive and deliver express parcels or telegrams. Where farmers live some distance from the road their mail is left in boxes at convenient points by the roadside, from which also letters are collected.—Harper's Weekly.

It is said that by the end of 1897 about ten tons of diamonds had been yielded by the South African mines, valued at £80,000,000 sterling. They would fill a box five feet square and six feet high. The annual product is now about half a ton, and some 8000 persons, of whom rather more than one-fifth are white, are employed in the works.

**HOOD'S FARM TEST.** Tremona 93017, dropped July 1, 1893. By Chromo, sire of 3 in the list, and was used on the majority of the Jerseys in the World's Fair dairy tests. Son of Diplomats, sire of 32 in the list, and Merry Maiden winner of grand sweepstakes award, World's Fair dairy tests for the best cows of any breed competing, by Combination, sire of 25 tested cows and grand-sire of nearly 70, among them the champion dairy cows of the World, Brown Bessie and Merry Maiden owned at Hood Farm. Her dam, Josephine, test 14 lbs. 1 oz. when 2 years and 2 months old, is by Diplomats out of Nettie C. Magnet, a descendant of Champion of America, sire of 39 in the list. Tremona dropped her last calf June 18, 1897, after being dry her 3 weeks, we being unable to dry her off sooner. She was tested for the week ending July 19 and gave 317 lbs. 7 ozs. of milk, which churned 15 lbs. 2 1/2 ozs. of butter that was confirmed by the Babcock test. Her daily ration was 5 lbs. of bran, 4 lbs. of corn meal, 1 1/2 lbs. oats, 1 1/2 lbs. oil meal, and ran in pasture. Tremona is of true dairy type and a rich and persistent milker, a characteristic of Chromo's get. **HOOD FARM, Lowell, Mass.**

**TALKS ON TURKEYS.** SAMUEL CUSHMAN, formerly with R. I. EXPERT STATION, can be engaged to address Farmers' Institutes, Poultry Societies, Grange meetings and Agricultural College students in any part of the country on certain topics relating to poultry production. Special attention given to Turkey, Game and Artificial Duck raising. For list of subjects and terms address Pawtucket, R. I.



RE-OPENS SEPT. 7th, 1897.

THE COURSE OF STUDY is thorough, complete and practical. Pupils are fitted for the duties and work of everyday life.

## THE FACULTY

embraces a list of more than twenty teachers and assistants, elected with special reference to proficiency in each department.

## THE STUDENTS

are young people of both sexes, full of diligence and zeal.

## THE DISCIPLINE

is of the highest order and includes valuable business lessons.

## THE PATRONAGE

is the LARGEST of any similar institution in the world.

## THE REPUTATION

of this school for originality and leadership and its being the Standard Institution of its kind is generally acknowledged.

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Shorthand, Type Writing, Composition and Correspondence may be taken as a special course.

## SITUATIONS.

In business houses furnished pupils among the varied industries connected with the school.

## THE SCHOOL BUILDING.

608 Washington Street, Boston, is centrally located and purposely constructed. Office open daily, from 9 till 4 o'clock. *Private Post Free.*

H. E. HIBBARD, Principal.

## THE WORLD OVER.

—Five thousand English may go to Klondike.  
—Canovas's assassin was tried and sentenced Monday.  
—The Cripple Creek output for July was \$1,000,000.  
—Hall drifts three feet deep are reported in Colorado.  
—A new oil well has been discovered near Anderson, Ind.  
—There is a fresh outbreak of cholera in Bangkok reported.  
—Spanish anarchists may not be allowed to land in this country.  
—The deaths from yellow fever in Havana during July numbered 112.  
—The Cobden Club has presented a gold medal to Sir Wilfrid Laurier.  
—A company has been organized to develop gold mines in Virginia.  
—Rich placer gold mines are reported to be found in Chihuahua, Mexico.  
—There are indications of a volcanic eruption near Harrison Lake, B. C.  
—Canadian railways will appeal the bond tax matter to the Supreme Court.  
—Several lives are supposed to be lost by the capsizing of a steamer near Dresden.  
—Prince Henri of Orleans is seriously wounded in the duel with the Count Turin.  
—Canadians propose going to Klondyke via James Bay and the Yukon and McKenzie rivers.  
—Canada is gaining emigrants because of the operation of the alien labor law in the United States.  
—The statement is made that Englishmen will build a railroad over White Pass from Dyea this year.  
—Lumber and railroad ties are being shipped from the Pacific coast for building the Siberian Railway.  
—There is evidence that farmers are holding back their wheat and that the crop is smaller than expected.  
—A statement is made that Gollit attempted to kill Canovas on July 27, and the latter refused to cause his arrest.  
—It costs the British Government \$7,250,000 annually for the clothing furnished to its army all over the world.  
—Brotherhoods of Grand Trunk Railway employees threaten at Montreal to strike unless their grievances are settled.  
—A post office clock in Sidney, Australia, emits an electric flash-light lasting five seconds every hour during the night, thus enabling those living miles away to ascertain the exact time.  
—The real industries of New Mexico are cattle and wool. It takes a week to ride around the Maxwell ranch, and at every step of the way the eye encounters fat cattle, heavy sheep and beautiful meadow land. It is 62 miles square.  
—It is said that by the end of 1897 about ten tons of diamonds had been yielded by the South African mines, valued at £80,000,000 sterling. They would fill a box five feet square and six feet high. The annual product is now about half a ton, and some 8000 persons, of whom rather more than one-fifth are white, are employed in the works.

## HOOD'S FARM TEST.

Tremona 93017, dropped July 1, 1893. By Chromo, sire of 3 in the list, and was used on the majority of the Jerseys in the World's Fair dairy tests. Son of Diplomats, sire of 32 in the list, and Merry Maiden winner of grand sweepstakes award, World's Fair dairy tests for the best cows of any breed competing, by Combination, sire of 25 tested cows and grand-sire of nearly 70, among them the champion dairy cows of the World, Brown Bessie and Merry Maiden owned at Hood Farm. Her dam, Josephine, test 14 lbs. 1 oz. when 2 years and 2 months old, is by Diplomats out of Nettie C. Magnet, a descendant of Champion of America, sire of 39 in the list. Tremona dropped her last calf June 18, 1897, after being dry her 3 weeks, we being unable to dry her off sooner. She was tested for the week ending July 19 and gave 317 lbs. 7 ozs. of milk, which churned 15 lbs. 2 1/2 ozs. of butter that was confirmed by the Babcock test. Her daily ration was 5 lbs. of bran, 4 lbs. of corn meal, 1 1/2 lbs. oats, 1 1/2 lbs. oil meal, and ran in pasture. Tremona is of true dairy type and a rich and persistent milker, a characteristic of Chromo's get. **HOOD FARM, Lowell, Mass.**

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## THE HOUSEHOLD.

## A FATUOUS FLOWER.

Once upon a time a Bumblebee addressed a Sunflower, said he: "Dear Sunflower, tell me it is true that everybody says of you?"

Replied the Sunflower: "Tell me, pray, how should I know what people say? Why should I care? No doubt 'Tis some ill-natured tale without a word of truth; but tell me, Bee, what is it people say of me?"

"Oh, no!" the Bee made haste to add; "Tis really not so very bad. I got it from the Ant. She said she'd heard the Sun had turned your head, and that when he walks the skies you follow him with all your eyes from morn till eve—"

"Oh, what a shame!" exclaimed the Sunflower, aflame, "To say such things of me! They know the very opposite is so."

"They know full well that it is—The Sun—who always follows me. I turn away my head until I fear my stalk will break; and still I tag along from morn till night, starting as soon as it is light, and never taking my eyes off me until it is too dark to see! They really ought to be ashamed. Soon they'll be saying I was known from him, when well they know 'twas he who took the name of Sun from me."

The Sunflower paused, with anger dumb. The Bee said naught, but murmured, "Hm!"

"Twas very evident that he was much impressed—the Bumblebee. He spread his wings at once and flew to tell some other bees he knew. Who, being also much impressed, said, 'Hm!' and flew to tell the rest."

And now if you should chance to see, in field or grove, a Bumblebee, And hear him murmur, "Hm!" then you will know what he's alluding to.

—St. Nicholas.

## A BOY BOARDER.

Once upon a time—about two hundred and fifty years ago, in fact—a little boy stood one morning at the door of a palace in Florence, and looked about him. Why he was standing there I do not know. Perhaps he was waiting for the butcher or the milkman, for he was a kitchen boy in the household of a rich and mighty cardinal. He was twelve years old and his name was Thomas.

Suddenly he felt a tap at his shoulder which made him turn around, and he said with great astonishment:

"What! Is that you, Peter? What has brought you to Florence? And how are all the people in Cortona?"

"They're all well," answered Peter, who likewise was a boy of twelve. "But I've left them for good. I'm tired of taking care of sheep—stupid things! I want to be a painter. I've come to Florence to learn how. They say there's a school here where they teach people."

"But have you got money?" asked Thomas.

"Not a penny."

"Then you can't be a painter. You had much better take service in the kitchen with me, here in the palace. You will be sure of not starving to death, at least," said the sage Thomas.

"Do you get enough to eat?" asked the other reflectively.

"Plenty. More than enough."

"I don't want to take service, because I want to be a painter," said Peter. "But I'll tell you what we'll do. As you have more than you need to eat, you shall take me to board—on trust at first, and when I'm a grown-up painter I'll settle the bill."

"Agreed," said Thomas, after a moment's thought. "I can manage it. Come up stairs to the garret where I sleep, and I'll bring you some dinner by and by."

So the two boys went up to the little room above the chimney pots, where Thomas slept. It was very, very small, and all the furniture in it was an old straw bed and two rickety chairs. But the walls were beautifully white-washed. The food was good and plentiful, for when Thomas went down to the kitchen, and before long the broken meats, he found the half of a mutton pie, which the cook had carelessly thrown out.

Peter enjoyed the mutton pie hugely, and told Thomas that he felt as if he could fly to the moon.

"So far, so good," said he, "but Thomas, I can't be a painter without paper and pencils, and brushes, and colors. Haven't you any money?"

"No," said Thomas despairingly, "and I don't know how to get any, for I shall receive no wages for three years."

"Then I can't be a painter, after all," said Peter mournfully.

"I tell you what," suggested Thomas, "I'll get some charcoal down in the kitchen, and you can draw pictures on the wall."

So Peter set resolutely to work, and drew so many pictures of men and women, birds, and trees, and beasts and flowers, that before long the walls were all covered with pictures.

At last, one happy day, Thomas came into possession of a small piece of silver money. Upon my word I don't know where he got it. But he was much too honest a boy to take money that did not belong to him, and so, I presume, he derived it from the sale of his "perquisites."

You may be sure there was joy in the little boarding-house up among the chimney pots, for Peter could have pencil, paper and India rubber, and a few other things that artists need. Then he changed his way of life a little; he went out early every morning and wandered about Florence, and everything he could find he drew, whether of pictures in the churches, or the fronts of old palaces, or the statues in the public squares, or the outlines of the hills beyond the Arno, just as it happened.

Then, when it became too dark to work any longer, Peter would go home to his boarding house, and find his dinner all nicely tucked away under the old straw bed, where landlord Thomas had put it, not so much to hide it as to keep it warm. Things went on this way for about two years. None of the servants knew that Thomas kept a boarder, or if they did know it they good-naturedly said they never told the cook used to remark sometimes that Thomas ate a good deal for a lad of his size, and it was surprising that he didn't grow more.

One day the cardinal took it in his head to alter and repair his palace. He

went all over the house in company with an architect, and poked into places he never in all his life thought of before. At last he reached the garret, and as luck would have it, stumbled right into Thomas's boarding house.

"Why, how's this?" cried the great cardinal, vastly astonished at seeing the mean little room so beautifully decorated in charcoal. "Have we an artist among us? Who occupies this room?"

"The kitchen boy, Thomas, your Eminence."

"A kitchen boy! But so great a genius must not be neglected. Call the kitchen boy, Thomas."

Thomas came up in fear and trembling. He never had been in the mighty cardinal's presence before. He looked at the charcoal drawings on the wall, then at the prelate's face, and he sank within him.

"Thomas, you are no longer a kitchen boy," said the cardinal kindly. "He is a boy from Cortona, who boards with me, and he drew those pictures on the wall, and then what would become of Peter?"

"Don't send me away," he cried imploringly, falling on his knees. "I have nowhere to go, and Peter will starve—and he wants to be a painter so much!"

"Who is Peter?" asked the cardinal.

"He is a boy from Cortona, who boards with me, and he drew those pictures on the wall, and then what would become of Peter?"

"Where is he now?" demanded the cardinal.

"He is out wandering about the street looking for something to draw. He goes out every day and comes back at night."

"When he returns to-night, Thomas, bring him to me," said the cardinal. "Such genius as that should not be allowed to live in a garret."

But strange to say, that night Peter did not come back to his boarding house. One week, two weeks went by and still nothing was heard of him. At the end of that time the cardinal called at a search for him to be instituted, and at last they found him in a convent. It seems he had fallen in love with one of Raphael's pictures which was exhibited there. He had asked permission of the monks to copy it, and they, charmed with his youth and great talent, had readily consented and had lodged and nourished him all the time.

Thanks to the interest the cardinal took in him, Peter was admitted to the best school for painting in Florence. As for Thomas, he was given a post near the cardinal's person, and had masters to instruct him in all the learning of the day.

Fifty years later, two old men lived together in one of the most beautiful houses in Florence. One of them was called Peter of Cortona, and people said of him: "He is the greatest painter of our time." The other was called Thomas, and all they said of him was: "Happy is the man who has him for a friend!" And he was the boy that took a boarder.—The Young Idea.

## What Women Are Doing in New England.

New England women, with all their interest in literary and educational matters, by no means neglect the domestic side. As individuals they maintain the early reputation of the New England housewife, and in organizations they are making a careful study of domestic science and household economics. The New England Kitchen, still carried on by a group of Boston women, is a practical example of what science can do for the homely art of cooking. The latest work undertaken by the ladies in charge of this kitchen is that of supplying wholesome luncheons to the boys and girls in certain public schools. Five-cent and ten-cent luncheons are provided daily to 1500 children, who otherwise would stay their hunger with the indigestible confections of some neighboring pastry-shop. New England women are making constant efforts to introduce cooking into the public schools, sometimes through one organization, sometimes through another. Boston had the first public-school kitchen in America, and the generosity of Mrs. Quincy A. Shaw was largely instrumental in having cooking made a part of the public school curriculum.

In Providence the same work was accomplished by the ladies of the Domestic Training Association. Cooking was introduced into the public schools of Manchester, New Hampshire, through the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and women were instrumental in introducing the same branch into the Concord public schools. The women of Rhode Island and Connecticut, through various organizations, are showing an interest in scientific cooking, and in Vermont good work is accomplished in this direction by means of the Farmers' Institutes. Several groups of women in New England are turning their attention to the ever-urgent servant problem. The belief is spreading that almost the only solution lies in establishing well-equipped training schools. The members of the Boston Young Women's Christian Association for many years have maintained an admirable free Training School for Domesticates. The graduates from its six months' course are always in great demand, and its only defect is that limited quarters prevent its having more than a score of students at a time.

—Harper's Bazar.

## Homely Homilies.

When in doubt, don't talk. A man is hopelessly dull when he doesn't know when he is being made fun of.

More people should rejoice that they don't get what they deserve instead of complaining.—Good Housekeeping.

## Transferring Leaf Colors.

The Outlook says: "Take a leaf of a tree or shrub, place over it a small piece of white linen soaked in spirits of nitre, and insert between the leaves of a heavy book, with a sheet of paper to receive the impression. Lay the book aside for a few days. The leaf will be found devoid of color, which will have been transferred to the paper in all the original beauty of tint and outline of the leaf."

## THE HOME CORNER.

## FREE PATTERN.

By special arrangements with the BAZAR GLOVE-FITTING PATTERN CO., we are able to supply our readers with the Bazar Glove-Fitting Pattern at very low cost. It is acknowledged by every one that these patterns are the simplest, most economical and most reliable pattern published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and our lady readers have invariably pleased with them in the past. The coupon below must accompany each order, otherwise the pattern will cost the full price.

## MASS. PLOUGHMAN COUPON.

Cut this out, fill in your name, address, number and size of pattern desired, and mail it to THE HOME CORNER, MASS. PLOUGHMAN, BOSTON, MASS.

Name .....  
Address .....  
No. of Pattern .....  
Size .....  
Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.



6834—Girls' Sailor Suit.

Blue and white pique are united in this jaunty little suit, that is neatly decorated with braid. The pattern provides for a plain body lining that is simply shaped by shoulder and under-arm seams, the closing of which is effected at the centre-back with buttons and button-holes. To the lower edge of the body-lining the full gathered skirt is joined. The blouse is also adjusted by means of shoulder and under-arm seams, and closes in front, the neck being cut away to expose the shield of white pique. The handsome broad sailor collar displays stylish pointed revers in front, from under which a sailor-tie knot falls. Elastic is drawn through the hem that finishes the edge of the blouse, to adjust the fullness at the waist line. The bishop sleeves are of moderate width, and are gathered top and bottom, round cuffs finishing the wrists. The skirt has a lower edge showing a neat decoration, consisting of a band of white pique headed by bows of braid. A close standing band finishes the neck. Flannel, serge, duck, pique, grass linen and crash are suitable for developing, while braid is invariably the accepted decoration. The mode is particularly adapted to seaside, country or general wear. While blue is the conventional color for outing purposes, dressy little costumes can be made of cream white serge united with silk in the same color, and narrow gilt braid. Scarlet canvas combined with white cloth and black braid is exceedingly effective. To make this costume for a girl ten years will require five and one-half yards of thirty-six-inch material. The pattern, No. 6834, is cut in sizes for girls of six, eight, ten, twelve and fourteen years. With coupon, ten cents.

It seems rather early to speak of the winter window garden, but the housewife who wants some good potting soil must commence now to get it in readiness, says the Prairie Farmer. The soil needed for the window garden must be exceptionally good or the plants will not grow successfully. Procure some good earth and mix with it sand, manure, leaves, grass, etc., putting the pile in some place where it will not be disturbed. It takes some time for all this to rot and form the fine potting soil so essential. Pour over this pile all the soap suds, wash water and dish water available and fork it over occasionally, mixing it thoroughly and well. In this way only can the very best potting soil be procured, and those who delight in flowers should begin now to prepare for their winter garden.

This season the changes in fashion are more marked in neck wear than in almost anything else, excepting of course the difference in the style and size of sleeves. No longer is it possible for a woman to tie a bit of ribbon, black or colored, around her neck and feel she is correctly gowned, no matter if the rest of her costume be shabby. Just as much attention must now be paid to neck wear as to any other important detail of one's wardrobe, says the Harper's Bazar.

To begin with, white has again come into fashion for collars, ruffles, etc. There may be worn colored stocks, black ruffles, etc., but inside all must be a line of white that comes directly against the skin. Fortunately this is one of the most becoming of all fads, both to young and old, and the cream-white laces are used in preference to the blue-white, which makes them still more becoming. The net stock with lace ends is one of the favorite styles. This is made of a length of net half a yard wide, across the ends of which is sewed lace; it is long enough to go around the neck twice and tie in a tight sailor-knot. Of course net and lace must be of a kind that will wash, for these stocks must always be immaculate.

Ribbon is still used for stocks, but in

a variety of new ways. A pretty fashion is a yard of satin ribbon three inches wide, which is put on the collar in standing pleats at the back, and in front is brought down into just a line. Directly in the back the ribbon is put on in a double box-pleat, and from either side are the side-pleats; inside the ribbon is a fall of lace. The ribbon bows at the back of the neck have given place to these box-pleats, and also to points of ribbon, silk or satin, with the lace falling over, while the ribbon which goes around the neck meets exactly even and is fastened with invisible hooks and eyes.

With the shirt waists Windsor and four-in-hand ties are worn instead of the small bows and neckties of last season. It looks odd to see these big ties in their entirety, for when men wear them the ends are covered by the waistcoat; but the women have apparently adopted the fashion permanently, judging from the number that are seen. Black satin, black silk, or moire is the smartest, but for every day wear there is no end of linen ties shown in brilliant colorings.

Some eccentric styles of collars stand out from the neck, or are cut in points, but these are too marked to be really smart. The narrow, plain turned-down kind are much the best. High standing collars are also in fashion, and the turned-down ones of last year are not absolutely tabooed, although no longer new style. One and all are made so that they can be attached to any band or collar.

We have used nothing but an oil stove in our kitchen for months, says T. B. Terry in the Practical Farmer. We bake, cook and do everything on it; it can be done just as well, when one gets used to it. Our washing and ironing are done out of the house, but could be done on an oil stove. A boiler of water, set on two holes of our stove, I think would heat nearly as quickly as on our wood range. Wife said the other day she wished we had our money back for the range; that we did not need it. But to be frank, my wife was some time getting used to the oil stove. She thought she could hustle things more on the range. Starting from the match, I can heat the tea-kettle of water quicker, on our oil stove than on the range. Once things are hot the oil stove will keep them boiling just as well as the range, and even better. The baking is perfect, as one can control the heat exactly. I have seen my wife, late years, light the oil stove to bake bread when there was a fire in the range.

Many questions are asked about our oil tank. We bought it for \$6, as I remember. It holds 60 gallons. A barrel of oil generally contains 32 gallons. You can keep it in the barrel, but it will leak and evaporate more or less. If you buy 6 or 10 gallons at once in a can, it will cost more, and is too much trouble for us. The tank has a cover that shuts down, making it evaporation proof. This tank is in our cellar near a window. Yesterday we rolled a barrel of oil up to the window outside, cut out the bung and placed in it the pump from the tank. This pump is used to pump up the oil for use into measure or small cans. We have a two-inch tin pipe reaching from the pump outside to the tank in the cellar. In a few minutes we transferred the oil into the tank, and the barrel was ready to carry back to town, where we got 75 cents for it. We paid 10 cents a gallon for oil (the best, common oil is cheaper) and 40 cents freight and cartage. After returning the barrel, the net cost to us was about 9 1/2 cents. This oil retails in our town at 12 1/2 cents per gallon. This is lower than such oil usually sells. By buying the barrel you see we made 33 per cent on the money, and then it is so much less trouble. Robert has a 5-gallon can and gets oil from our tank. Two neighbors living near together could get along with one tank. The oil keeps perfectly a year, or more. The last gallon burns as well as the first. We use the same oil in our lamps.

About this time of year children are apt to be troubled more or less with hives, says the Home Monthly. Usually they are not a menace to life, but they are a great discomfort to the child and its mother. All are familiar with this condition, so it need not be described at length. They suddenly flash out on a seemingly healthy skin and as suddenly disappear. They are at first of a pinkish red color, soon changing to a deep red. If rubbed they become surrounded by a whitish ring which has

NERVOUS PROSTRATION.

A New Jersey Woman Expresses Her Gratitude to Mrs. Pinkham for Relief.

"Will you kindly allow me," writes Miss Mary E. Saidt to Mrs. Pinkham, "the pleasure of expressing my gratitude for the wonderful relief I have experienced by taking your Compound? I suffered for a long time with nervous prostration and general debility, caused by falling for use into the hands of a quack. It seemed as though my back would never stop aching. I could not sleep. I had dull headaches. I was weary all the time, and life was a burden to me. I sought the seashore for relief, but all in vain. On my return I resolved to give your medicine a trial. I took two bottles and was cured. I can cheerfully state, if more ladies would only give your medicine a fair trial they would bless the day they saw the advertisement, and there would be happier homes. I mean to do all I can for you in the future. I have you alone to thank for my recovery, for which I am very grateful."

—MISS MARY E. SAIDT, Jobstown, N. J.



given to them the appropriate name "wheels." They are intensely itchy and almost drive a child frantic. The most urgent indication is to allay the itching degrees of success with various applications. A favorite remedy is a saturated solution of bicarbonate of soda—ordinary baking soda. Possibly a better remedy is pulverized boric acid dissolved in glycerine or cosmoline and lightly rubbed over the surface. A remedy I have used with satisfaction, though it has a very disagreeable odor, is a solution of carbolic acid, a teaspoonful to a pint of water, the mixture to be shaken for fifteen minutes to get the acid thoroughly broken up. A good authority gives these directions for the relief of this affliction. Wash the child with soda water, then dip the finger in castor oil and bathe each individual hive, rubbing the oil well into the skin. The cause of hives is generally found in the digestive tract, so the diet and stools should be carefully looked to. One of the saline purgatives should be given to carry off any undigested material that may be present, then all rich and heating foods should be withheld. The child should be kept as still as possible to avoid over heating the blood.

Corn Dumplings.—Make a nice light biscuit dough, and form it into small thin rounds, just large enough to hold a heaping teaspoonful of corn, seasoned to taste; add a lump of butter, and form into round dumplings. Corn previously cooked on the ear is easier to use than fresh, unless the latter is well drained, as the milk of the corn makes the closing of the dumplings difficult. Steam for about twenty minutes, and serve as a garnish to stewed chicken.—Table Talk.

Corn Batter Patties.—Into one pint of sifted flour rub one tablespoonful of butter, and add one half of a teaspoonful of salt, and one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder. Beat an egg light and add to it three-quarters of a cupful of milk, and pour into the flour, beating hard for several minutes. Have buttered patty pans ready, and spread the bottoms and sides with the batter, and fill with fresh corn, seasoned with salt and cayenne. Put a piece of butter on top, cover with cream sauce and fine bread crumbs, and dot with bits of butter. Bake about half an hour. Pass cream sauce with the patties.—Table Talk.

Bean Salad.—Place one pint white beans in a saucepan with cold water over the fire, and cook twenty minutes. Pour the beans in a colander, rinse them out with boiling water, return the beans to the saucepan, add one and a half pounds beef from the plate. Cover all with boiling water. Add one onion, one teaspoonful salt, one-quarter teaspoonful pepper. Cover tightly and cook slowly three and a half hours. Then serve either with tomato or cucumber salad. The cost is: One and a half pounds beef from the plate, twelve cents; one pint beans, five cents; onion and seasoning, one cent;

the sauce-pan long enough to become hot. Pour the succotash into the serving-dish, slice the pork in the scorings, arrange on the top of the dish and serve at once. To remove the pulp from the ears of corn without the hull, take a sharp knife and cut down through the centre of each row of kernels, then with the back of the knife press out the pulp and leave the hull on the cob. For a change, add a cup of reduced tomato pulp to the above, season accordingly; or an onion may be cooked with the beans, and then removed before the dish is sent to the table.

Apple Ringlets.—Peel, core and cut into thick slices four large tart apples, mix half cup flour with half teaspoonful baking powder, half teaspoonful butter and half teaspoonful salt. Mix half cup water with one egg, add it to these materials, mix all into a smooth batter. Melt one tablespoonful fat in a frying-pan, dip the apple slices into the batter, put them in the frying-pan and fry light brown on both sides, keeping the pan covered while frying. Serve dusted with sugar.—Mrs. Lemcke.

Succotash.—Scrape, wash and score in quarter-inch slices a generous quarter of a pound of salt pork, "fat and lean." Put the pork into a saucepan, add a quart of boiling water and cook, with the water just below the boiling point, for four hours, or until tender. Remove the pork, and add one pint of freshly-shelled lima beans (it may be necessary to add a little more water), and when the beans are nearly tender, add one pint of sweet-corn pulp. Cook about fifteen minutes, add a tablespoonful of butter, or a little sweet cream and salt, if it be needed. Put the pork into

the sauce-pan long enough to become hot. Pour the succotash into the serving-dish, slice the pork in the scorings, arrange on the top of the dish and serve at once. To remove the pulp from the ears of corn without the hull, take a sharp knife and cut down through the centre of each row of kernels, then with the back of the knife press out the pulp and leave the hull on the cob. For a change, add a cup of reduced tomato pulp to the above, season accordingly; or an onion may be cooked with the beans, and then removed before the dish is sent to the table.

Rye and Indian Muffins.—Sift together one cup of granulated corn-meal, three-fourths of a cup of rye flour, one-fourth of a cup of entire wheat flour, one-fourth of a cup of sugar, one-half a teaspoonful of salt and four teaspoonfuls (level) of baking-powder. Beat one egg, add one cup of sweet milk and two tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Put the mixture into a hot, well-greased gem-pan and bake about twenty-five minutes. These are also very good made without the egg.

Scalloped Tomatoes and Onions: Use onions that have been previously cooked and left over. Cut the onions in slices as thin as possible, the tomatoes the same. Butter an agate or granite-ware baking-dish. Put in a layer of sliced tomatoes, season with salt and pepper, sprinkle with buttered crumbs, and add a layer of onion slices; continue in same order, having the last layer of crumbs, until all the ingredients are used. Bake in a moderate oven from half to three-fourths of an hour.

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## Five Fixed Facts.

FACT No. 1. GOLD MEDAL is the People's Flour.

FACT No. 2. GOLD MEDAL is the most economical flour to use.

FACT No. 3. GOLD MEDAL is America's Greatest Family Flour.

FACT No. 4. GOLD MEDAL is made in the finest flour milling plant on the Globe.

FACT No. 5. Bread made from GOLD MEDAL has delicious taste, beautiful color and is of light and fine texture.

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## THE HORSE.

—The next meeting at Readville is Aug. 24. All the grand circuit horses will be there and fine racing is guaranteed.

—Frank Patchen by Joe Patchen 2.01 1-2 is going well, and horsemen say that he will be at 2.15 this year.

—The card of racing for the Brockton fair is well filled. There will be good racing in all classes, but the colt stakes will be especially attractive.

—The owner and driver of John R. Gentry 2.00 1-2 have decided to give up the attempt to break the high wheel sulky record. They think it sets him back in his other fast work.

—The Hill Top Farm, Danbury, Ct., has nearly 100 head of trotting bred horses.

—Nathan Strauss is driving Cobwebs, 2.12, on the roads at his summer residence in the Berkshire hills.

—E. H. Newcomb, once a trainer at Highlawn Farm, Lee, Mass., now has charge of the Hilltop Farm stable at Danbury, Ct. He is at Readville with nine head, including Sabient 2.18 by Sable Wilkes.

## THE HORSE TO RAISE ON THE FARM.

Regarding the above subject, J. Hadley McLeod, Charles City, Iowa, in a recent Wisconsin Farmer says: "In the first place I shall endeavor to give you my idea of the kind of horse most suitable to raise on a farm and at the same time command a good price on the horse markets. All success in the breeding of animals is based principally upon the proper selection of the parents and the treatment of the progeny."

"Horses of any breed should have such a form as is best suited to the purpose for which they are intended. The proportion of parts should be such as are consistent; no decided weakness anywhere, for in an animal, as in a chain, the strength of the whole is practically determined by that of the weakest. What does a horse amount to even if he has the most perfect form in every other part, but is the victim of some organic disease of the feet? The seat, by the way, of by far the most frequent forms of lameness in horses."

"Perhaps there is less judgment shown in horse breeding than there is in any of the other animals on the farm. In my experience I have seen breeders use mares with blemishes and the victims of hereditary diseases for years, in some cases succeeding fairly well, but how many have failed to get any more than a common looking scrub, with perhaps all and more blemishes than the dam, and could not get more than from \$30 to \$40 for the animal at five years old."

"In selecting a sire he should be free from all hereditary diseases. It ought to be distinctly understood that it is a very bad policy to breed from an inferior or unsound sire or dam of any breed. He should have good, sound, well shaped feet. His head, too, is really a very important part, since it contains the brain, and, in consequence, determines largely the psychic traits of the breed as well as the general intelligence and disposition. It must be clean cut, face straight, wide between the eyes, large, open nostrils, the eyes bold, lively, clear and expressive, strong and clean lower jaw, muzzle small, lips short and thin."

"The neck should be symmetrical in length and proportions, strong, full at the crest and clean cut at the throat. Shoulders oblique and muscular, sloping backward at the withers, shortening the back. Chest full and prominent; if it is not deep it is quite plain that the shoulder blades cannot be properly placed, and in order that abundant room be provided for heart and lungs, it should be barrel shaped below and very wide above, which insures the ribs being well sprung. Forearm well formed, strong and muscular; his carcass roomy, barrel wide, large and round form, with the ribs curving from the short, strong back. Couplings smooth and strong, close ribbed and extending evenly over the point of the hip. Quarters must be well shaped, of medium length and width, rounded and muscular."

"The bones of the legs thin and flat, and must have no appearance of swelling in any kind, nor any kind of thickening. A large, wide, strong and clean hock. Knees straight, large and strong, Cannon bones short, clean and flat, with fine quality of silken hair. Pasterns strong, medium length, clean and sloping."

Best, cheapest, greatest labor saver, healthiest, safest, highest endorsed, all this is true of German Pest Moss. Try it for your stables C. B. Barrett, Importer, 45 North Market street

Weather and Crops.  
FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 16.

The week just closed gave frequent showers over the larger portion of New England, with a general rain on the 11th. In western Massachusetts rain fell on every day but two. There were heavy local storms, with hail, in western New Hampshire and parts of Vermont on the 9th, also in Worcester County, Massachusetts, where the storm near Royalston and Winchendon was almost a cloudburst. Several days of the week, however, were fine, and crops not past improvement show better conditions. The temperature was as a rule favorable, although falling rather low at night.

## MAINE.

A heavy downpour of rain Wednesday night, 11th, laid stout grain flat, and rust is doing some damage also. Potatoes are doing fairly well. This crop is not entirely free from blight, although the loss thus far is not great. The prospect for corn is doubtful, but more promising at this time. A few fields of grain are ripening. Pastures excellent. A large crop of blackberries is on the way. Apples scarce.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The past week was generally good for hay, which is completed on uplands, but meadow lands are a failure. The second growth of grass is in the main light. Potatoes are a very deficient yield and small. Corn is not earing well on moist lands; in fact, a large proportion of the crop will be fit only for silo. Rowen is a heavy crop; oats mostly harvested for fodder. Blackberries, early apples and peaches are plentiful. Pastures continue in the best of condition.

## VERMONT.

Haying is generally finished. The crop is spoken of as above the average in quantity, but of a poor quality. Corn, in order to mature well, will need the most favorable weather from now on. Reports on potatoes are becoming less favorable. The excessive rains are beginning to tell on this crop, especially on low lands. "Small and few in a hill" is the complaint.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

In the eastern counties all crops have made good growth the past week; in the central and western sections frequent showers have retarded harvesting. Late potatoes are showing blight, and in the western part of the state are almost a total loss. Corn grows fast. Rowen will be heavy on well fertilized lands. Tomatoes ripen slowly and continue to blast. Millet and late barley looking well. Peaches are rotting on the trees in the east, ripening well in the west. Grapes show little rot. Cranberry prospects not of the best, much damage by worms. Farmers are still making hay west of the Connecticut. Tobacco poor.

## RHODE ISLAND.

Little change has occurred in the general situation during the past week. Early crops are about all harvested and late crops are ripening. The potato rot has appeared to some extent, causing smaller shipments to market. Corn on low lands will largely be a failure, but on dry lands the outlook for the crop is good. The ground is in fine shape for fall seeding. A remarkable freedom from injury by insects has characterized the season.

## CONNECTICUT.

A slight change for the better is noted, but all crops now require maturing weather, of which there is not enough. Potatoes are uncertain; the blight is spreading, and if not checked will destroy the late planted crop. Corn will hardly fully ripen except on favorable lands; its present progress is very slow. Haying is finished in most localities while in others it is still dragging. White onions are about all pulled; light yield. Peaches ripening prematurely; small and flavorless and rotting badly. Condition of tobacco poor. Oats practically harvested in fair to good order. The average for all crops will be low.

J. W. SMITH.

## MAINE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

## MEETING AT STATE FAIR.

The State Board of Agriculture will hold its usual meeting at the State Fair grounds, Lewiston, on Wednesday evening, Sept. 1st. Dr. H. H. Goodell of Amherst, President of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, has been secured as speaker for the evening, and will deliver a lecture on "The Channel Islands." This lecture will be of a popular nature, and will be of much interest, not only to those engaged in agricultural pursuits, but to all classes. Miss Lizette M. Brown, the well known soprano of the Sicilian Ladies' Quartette, Portland, will sing at the opening and closing of the meeting. It is to be hoped that all who visit the fair will bear in mind this Wednesday evening meeting, and avail themselves of the opportunity of listening to this able speaker and enjoying the fine music, as they will undoubtedly be well repaid for any effort put forth in this direction.

The 31st Annual Encampment of the G. A. R. will be held in Buffalo this year. If you are going, remember that the Fitchburg R.R. is the popular route. Rate only one fare for the round trip.

—On a capital of \$4,500,000 four companies have combined to monopolize light and power at Salt Lake City, Utah.

"They are off" at the Saratoga Races. If you go to see them, remember that the Fitchburg R.R. is the only first-class way to get there. The "Saratoga Limited" leaves Boston at 9:00 A.M., daily, except Sunday.

THE TIMES ARE OUT OF JOINT.  
REFLECT!!

**THE MASSES** want to be **HUMBLED!** So they buy inferior and dangerous soaps to procure **WORTHLESS** presents, or else the dealer recommends cheap soaps on account of extra profit. **THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST.** If you want the **BEST** and **PUREST** soap made, **BUY** the famous **WELCOME** and the superior **WHITE CREST** Soap. **THEY HAVE NO EQUAL** and will not injure the finest fabric or skin. Made by **CURTIS DAVIS & CO., BOSTON, MASS.**

## Mary's Letter.

"I'm really afraid that Mary has yielded to the very enticing sin of exaggeration," said a dear old grandmother of Piety Hill, as she wiped her glasses preparatory to reading the letter more carefully. "I know that she is spirited, pretty and full of life, but she's always been truthful. I'll say nothing to her about it till I have talked with some of the other Endeavorers who went to California."

"Why, she says here the redwood trees are so tall that it requires two people to see the tops. It doesn't seem possible. And strawberries as big as pineapples. Who ever heard of the like? Here's something that I'll just refer to the professor. He knows all about vegetables and agriculture. She says that it requires stump pullers to get the beets out of the ground; that they roll the pumpkins together with cant hooks and then load them on the wagons with derricks; that cucumbers grow as long as fence rails; that the wheat fields are as big as Lake Michigan; that the threshing machines look like steamboats, and that the horseless plows rush along like motor cars. It is certainly wonderful beyond belief."

"But don't you see, grandma," broke in one of her listeners, "Mary is just chaffing? She purposely makes stories so big that no one will believe them. It's just a satire on the boastful claims made for that country out there. You know they sell climate by the cubic yard."

"No, Mary has either seen these things or heard them upon good authority. We must not misjudge her. But here is the most remarkable thing yet. She says that a large watermelon burst just before they reached there and washed away quite a stretch of railroad track. Dear! Dear! I'll be glad to have her safe home with us again. I feel very certain that some one misled Mary in regard to the watermelon; she knows so little of the world!"—Detroit Free Press.

## Greetings.

The Arabians shake hands six or eight times. Once is not enough. If, however, they be persons of distinction, they embrace and kiss one another several times, and also kiss their own hands. In Turkey the salute is to place the hand upon the breast and bow, which is both graceful and appropriate. In Burma, when a man meets a woman, he puts his nose and his mouth close to her cheek and draws a long breath, as if inhaling a delicious perfume. He does not kiss her cheek, strange to say. A man is greeted in exactly the same way.

In the greater part of Germany it is considered an act of politeness, not of gallantry, for a man to kiss a woman's hand. In Italy that privilege is allowed only to near relatives, while in Russia it is extended to kissing the forehead. The men of Continental Europe have a custom that would seem queer, not to say laughable, here. They greet one another with a kiss, if they be friends, not on the cheek, but right on the lips. —Harper's Round Table.

WHILE everything else was going to rack and ruin she increased and multiplied. She supported herself and the family, too. The very insects which would have despoiled the farm she fattened upon, laying her daily egg—the blessed egg that took the place of beef and milk, mutton and pork—and in good time after all these services surrendered her toothsome body to the cause of humanity.—Coburn.

EVEN on the best dairy farms there is more or less variation in the cream and butter, and it is difficult to make the same grade of butter at all times. The influences are manifold, and to a certain extent seem to be beyond the control of the dairyman.—Indiana Farmer.

"THE best mulch for a strawberry bed," says a local grower, "is straw run through a feed-cutter. It is much better that sawdust or coarse manure."—Fruit.

## SAFE INVESTMENT.

Reports reach us daily of the prosperous outlook for the Western farmer and his success in paying off his indebtedness. These reports only emphasize the statements made by the Iowa Loan and Trust Co. that one of the safest investments which can be found are the debentures offered by them which are secured by mortgages on improved farm property in Iowa, eastern and central Nebraska, a part of South Dakota and Des Moines property. The company was incorporated in 1873 and was the first of the kind organized west of the Mississippi. They are well established, thoroughly reliable, and inspire confidence by their conservatism policy. See their card in this issue. Mention PLOUGHMAN when you investigate.

AGRICULTURAL FAIRS  
FOR 1897.

We shall be glad to receive information from secretaries relative to the dates of holding Fairs not included in the following list.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

Amesbury & Salisbury, Amesbury	Sept. 28, 29, 30
Barnstable Co., Barnstable	Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2
Berkshire, Pittsfield	Sept. 14, 15, 16
Blackstone Valley, Uxbridge	" 28, 29
Bristol Co., Taunton	" 21, 22, 23
Brockton, Brockton	Oct. 7, 8, 9
Deerfield Valley, Charlemont	" 10, 11
Eastern Hampden, Palmer	" 21, 22
Essex, Andover	" 31, 22, 23
Franklin Co., Greenfield	" 23, 24
Hampden, Hampden	" 23, 24
Hampshire, Amherst	" 25, 26
Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden, Northampton	" 25, 26
Highland, Middlefield	Sept. 8, 9
Hillsdale, Cummington	" 28, 29
Hingham, Hingham	" 28, 29
Hosack Valley, North Adams	" 22, 23
Housatonic, Great Barrington	" 29, 30
Manufacturers' Agricultural	" 29, 30
No. Attleborough	Aug. 31, Sept. 1
Marshfield, Marshfield	" 25, 26, 27
Massachusetts, Taunton	Sept. 21, 22
Mass. Horticultural, Boston	" 30, Oct. 1
MASS. STATE GRANGE, WORCESTER	Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3
Middlesex North, Lowell	Sept. 16, 17, 18
Middlesex South, Framingham	" 14, 15, 16
Nantucket, Nantucket	" 1, 2
Oxford, Oxford	" 21, 22
Plymouth County, Bridgewater	" 15, 16, 17
Spencer, Spencer	" 23, 24
Ware, Ware	" 15, 16, 17
Weymouth, South Weymouth	" 25, 26, 27
Worcester, Worcester	" 25, 26, 27
Worcester East, Lancaster	Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3
Worcester North, Fitchburg	Sept. 16, 17
Worcester North-west, Athol	Oct. 5, 6, 7
Worcester South, East Edgington	Sept. 16, 17
Worcester County West, Ware	" 30, Oct. 1

## NEW ENGLAND, PORTLAND.

Androscoquin Agricultural, Livemore Falls	Aug. 26-27
Buxton & Hollis, Buxton	Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2
Cumberland Farmers' Club, W. Cumberland	Sept. 28, 29
Cumberland County, Gorham	Sept. 7, 8, 9
Durham Agricultural, Durham	" 21, 22
East Edgington, East Edgington	" 15, 16
E. Maine State, Bangor	" 15, 16
East Somerset, Hallowell	Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3
Franklin Agricultural, Farmington	Sept. 1, 8, 9
Harrison	" 14, 15, 16
Gray Park Association, Gray	Aug. 24, 25, 26
Hancock Co., Blue Hill	Sept. 1, 2, 3
Kennebec Co., Readfield	" 7, 8, 9
Maine State, Lewiston	Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3
Lincoln Co., Agricultural, Bangor	Sept. 1, 2, 3
North Cumberland Agricultural, Harrison	Sept. 21, 22
No. Kennebec, Kingman	Sept. 21, 22
No. Waldo, Unity	" 29, 30
Ossipee Valley Union, Cornish	Aug. 24, 25, 26
South Kennebec Agricultural, South Windor	" 21, 22, 23
Sagadahoc Agricultural, Topsham	Oct. 12, 13, 14
Sadako Co. Agricultural, Belfast	Sept. 21, 22
Washington County Agricultural, Perre	" 15, 16
W. Washington Co. Agricultural, Cherryfield	" 14, 15, 16
York & Penobscot, Monrovia	" 14, 15, 16
York County, Sebasticus	" 14

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Cheshire, Keene	Sept. 21, 22, 23
Narragansett Grange, Bedford	" 14, 15, 16
N. H. State Grange, Upton	" 14, 15, 16
Pawtuxet Valley, River Point	Sept. 22-24
Plymouth, Plymouth	Aug. 31, Sept. 2
Rochester, Rochester	Sept. 21-24
R. L. State, Narragansett Park	Sept. 6-10
Union, Union	Sept. 21-24
Woonsocket, Woonsocket	Aug. 24-26

## CONNECTICUT.

Berlin, Berlin	Sept. 28-30
Brantford, Brantford	Sept. 28-30
Bristol Fair Corporation, Bristol	" 22-23
Cheshire, Cheshire	" 22
Clinton, Clinton	" 22
Connecticut Hort. Soc., Hartford	" 22
Danbury, Danbury	Oct. 4-9
East Granby, East Granby	" 4-9
Farmington Valley, Farmington	Sept. 8-9
Granby, Granby	" 18-20
Guilford, Guilford	" 29
Hartford, Hartford	Oct. 5
Killingworth, Killingworth	" 6
Meriden, Meriden	Sept. 15-17
New Milford, New Milford	" 14-16
Northford, Northford	" 23-25
Newtown, Newtown	" 28-30
Simsbury, Simsbury	Oct. 2
Stafford, Stafford	" 5-7
Springfield, Springfield	Sept. 21-22
Tolland County, Rockville	Sept. 7, 8, 9
Union (Monroe), Union	" 23-24
Union (Somers, etc.), Broad Brook	" 29
Wallington, Wallington	" 8-9
Willimantic, Willimantic	" 28-30
Windor, Windor	" 13-15
Woodstock, South Woodstock	" 13, 14, 15
Wolcott, Wolcott	Oct. 13

## VERMONT.

Brandon, Brandon	Oct. 5, 6
Rutland, Rutland	Sept. 14-16
Windsor, Woodstock	" 22-24
Vermont Inter-State, White River Junction	Aug. 24-27
Vermont State, Howard Park, Burlington	Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2, 3

## NEW YORK.

Albany, Albany	Sept. 13-16
Albany, Albany	" 13-16
Broomfield, Broomfield	" 7-10
Cattaraugus, Little Valley	Aug. 31, Sept. 3
Chemung, Elmira	" 31, " 3
Chemung, Norwich	" 31, " 3
Clinton, Plattsburgh	Sept. 7-9
Columbia, Chatham	Sept. 7-10
Cortland, Cortland	Aug. 17-20
Delaware, Margaretville	" 24, 27
Delaware, Delhi	" 24, Sept. 2
Delaware, Walton	" 14-17
Delaware, Sidney	" 7-9
Delaware, Poughkeepsie	" 21-24
Erie, Hamburg	" 15-17
Erie, Lancaster	Aug. 31, Sept. 4
Essex, Westport	Sept. 14-16
Franklin, Malone	" 28, Oct. 1
Fulton, Johnstown	Aug. 30, Sept. 2
Genesee, Batavia	Sept. 29-30
Hardin, Adirondack	Aug. 31, Sept. 3
Herkimer, Herkimer	Sept. 14-16
Jefferson, Watertown	" 7-9
Lewis, Lowville	" 14-17
Madison, Brookfield	" 21-23
Montgomery, Fond du Lac	" 6-9
Monroe, Brockport	" 30, Oct. 2
Niagara, Lockport	" 22-25
Onondaga, Syracuse	" 7-10
Oneida, Oneida	" 20-24
Oneida, Boonville	" 7-10
Ontario, Canandaigua	" 21-23
Orange, Middletown	" 14-17
Orleans, Albion	" 23-25
Oswego, Sand Creek	Aug. 17-19
Saratoga, Saratoga	Sept. 14-17
Otsego, Chenango	" 15-18
Otsego, Cooperstown	" 20-22
Queens, Mineola	" 21-25
Schenectady, Schenectady	" 21-24
Rockland, Orangeburg	" 20-24
St. Lawrence, Canton	" 14-17
St. Lawrence, Canton	Aug. 31, Sept. 3
Saratoga, Ballston Spa	Aug. 31, Sept. 3
Schoharie, Schoharie	Sept. 27-30
Schoharie, Cobleskill	" 27-30
Schuyler, Watkins	Oct. 1
Seneca, Waterloo	" 28-30
Stauben, Bath	" 28, Oct. 1
Suffolk, Riverhead	" 30
Sullivan, Monticello	" 7-10
Tioga, Newark Valley	Aug. 31, Sept. 2
Tioga, Tioga	Sept. 7-10
Tompkins, Dryden	" 21-23
Tompkins, Ithaca	Aug. 31, Sept. 3
Ulster, Ellenville	Sept. 7-9
Washington, Sandy Hill	" 7-10
Wayne, Lyons	" 16-18
Wyoming, Perry	" 28, 29
Wyoming, Warsaw	" 14-16
Yates, Penn Yan	" 21-23

See our Special Offer on the sixth page.

## BITS OF FUN.

Head of Firm: What's that awful racket out there? Silent Partner: We're just knocking down the crash suits.—Philadelphia Record.

"You look awful happy, old man." "Yes, I've struck it rich." "In what way?" "I've just bought a half interest in an Alaska dog!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Does your wife take any interest in current politics?" "Now," replied Mr. Solfarm, "she don't. But if its current jelly or current pie, why, I allow she could tell you more things about 'em 'n you ever dream of."

Totie accidentally discovered a doll that her mother had concealed in a trunk in readiness for the little girl's birthday. The following day at dinner she remarked: "I'm trying so hard to forget something I want to remember that I don't feel very hungry."—Judge.

The miller at the old windmill of a village in Buckinghamshire one year found such difficulty in getting his sails to work through want of wind that he was continually behind with his work. The delay greatly annoyed the farmers who decided to call a meeting to consider the advisability of getting up another windmill. Uninvited the miller also attended the meeting, and in the midst of the discussion rose and said: "Ye want to get up another windmill, do ye? Well, it takes all the wind in the parish to keep my ole mill ago'in', so ye'll have to fish elsewhere for yer wind, that's sartin!" This novel argument gave matters the turn, and to this day the miller has had no more opposition.

She: Oh, James, how grand the sea is. How wonderful. I do so like to hear the roar of the ocean. He: So do I, Elizabeth. Please keep quiet.—Lustigen Blaetter.

A man may be full of grit, but he should be careful about making rasping remarks.—Lowell Courier.

Suspicious.—Isaac: "Haf a cigar, Cohen? Cohen: Vat's der madder mit it?"—Truth.

So Natural.—"Oh, do look at that dear little lamb!" said Frances, on seeing a young lamb for the first time in her life. "Isn't it pretty?" asked mamma. "Yes; and it is so nat'ural, too. It squeaks just like a toy lamb, and has the same sort of wool on its back."—Judge.

A Kansas farmer who simply could not get harvest hands put this sign upon his fence: "Harvest hands wanted. Hired girl blond and genial. Cabinet organ music in the evening. Pie three times a day. Three spoons of sugar with every cup of coffee. Hammocks, feather beds, or leather divans at your option for sleeping. Rising hour nine o'clock in the morning. Three hours rest at noon. Come one, come all!"—Kansas City Journal.

"Here are a few letters I wish you would mail for me, dear," said Mrs. Tenspot to her husband, who was preparing to go out.

As Mr. Tenspot took them he glanced at the stamps, and asked:

"My dear, why did you put 15-cent stamps on these letters? Two-cent stamps would have carried them."

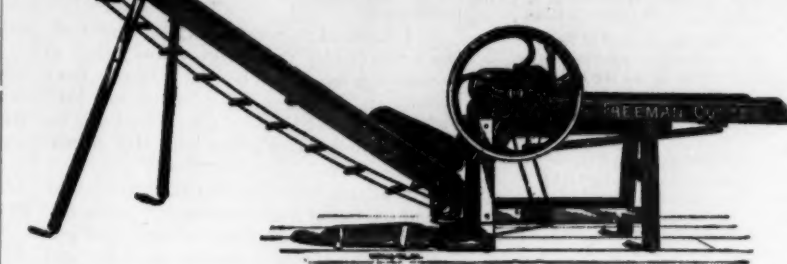
"I know it," replied Mrs. Tenspot, "but how would a red stamp look on envelopes of that lovely violet shade? This new stationery is of an exquisite color, and I could not think of spoiling its effect with stamps; which did not harmonize. These purple 15-cent stamps are the nearest match the post-office keeps."—Harper's Bazar.

—Assistant Secretary Roosevelt proposes to have a gunboat detailed for naval militia purposes.

—British Vice Admiral Erskine doubts the wisdom of building great warships without docking facilities.

## DON'T DELAY. WRITE AT ONCE.

## Freeman Ensilage and Feed Cutter.



Strongest, Most Durable and Easiest to Operate.

FIVE REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD BUY IT:  
HAS SAFETY FLY-WHEEL. HAS PATENT STOP FEED.  
HAS DROP-LEAF TABLE. HAS FOUR-SIDED DEAD KNIFE.  
HAS INSTANT CHANGE OF CUT.

It has the only Perfect Swivel Carrier on the Market. Can be attached to nearly all cutters.

ROSS BROTHERS, 158 to 164 FRONT ST. WORCESTER, MASS.

